

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of communicating physical human interactions over a communications network comprising:

detecting physical contact of a first model by movement of a first user located at a sending system, said first model representing at least a portion of a human body, wherein said first model incorporates one or more sensors;

generating data from said sensors specifying the physical contact movement;

determining at least one action intended by said first user indicated by the generated data;

transmitting the determined action over a communications network to a receiving system; and

simulating the action by performing said action on a second user at [[in]] the receiving system using a second model, said second model representing at least said portion of said human body, wherein said second model incorporates one or more actuators.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising, after said determining step, converting the data to markup language formatted data.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of processing the markup language formatted data in the receiving system to identify the action.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the markup language formatted data specifies at least one actuator movement to be implemented by the second model at the receiving system and an amount of force to be applied in the at least one actuator movement.

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, said simulating step further comprising the step of translating the action into instructions for activating at least one actuator; and activating the at least one actuator in accordance with the instructions.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
detecting physical contact of the second model by movement of a second user in the receiving system, wherein said second model incorporates one or more sensors;
generating data from said sensors specifying the physical contact of the second model movement in the receiving system;
determining at least one action intended by the second user indicated by the generated data;
transmitting the determined action over a communications network to [[a]] the sending system; and
simulating the action by performing said action on the first user at [[in]] the sending system using the first model, wherein said first model incorporates one or more actuators.

10. (Currently Amended) A system for communicating physical human interactions over a communications network comprising:

a first model incorporating at least one sending sensor configured to detect physical contact of said first model by movement of a first user located at a sending system, said first model representing at least a portion of a human body;

a sending message transmission module configured to receive data from said at least one sending sensor and determine an at least one intended action of said first user, said sending message transmission module further configured to transmit the action to another system over a communications network;

a receiving message transmission module configured to receive the action transmitted over the communications network, said receiving message transmission module further configured to translate the action into instructions for activating at least one actuator;

a second model incorporating at least one receiving actuator configured to simulate the action on a second user at a receiving location, said second model representing at least said portion of said human body.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, further comprising at least one sending actuator incorporated into said first model coupled with said sending message transmission module, said at least one sending actuator configured to simulate, on the first user, actions originating in said receiving message transmission module.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, further comprising at least one receiving sensor incorporated into said second model configured to detect physical contact of said second model by movement of the second user, wherein said at least one receiving sensor is communicatively linked with the receiving message transmission module.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine

for causing the machine to perform the steps of: A system for communicating physical human interactions over a communications network comprising:

means for detecting physical contact of a first model by movement of a first user located at a sending system, said first model representing at least a portion of a human body, wherein said first model incorporates one or more sensors;

means for generating data from said sensors specifying the physical contact movement;

means for determining at least one action intended by said first user indicated by the generated data;

means for transmitting the determined action over a communications network to a receiving system; and

means for simulating the action by performing said action on a second user at [[in]] the receiving system using a second model, said second model representing at least said portion of said human body, wherein said second model incorporates one or more actuators.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The system storage medium of claim 13, further comprising means for converting the data to markup language formatted data, wherein said means for converting are operable after said means for determining.

16. (Currently Amended) The system storage medium of claim 15, further comprising computer instructions means for processing the markup language formatted data in the receiving system to identify the action.

17. (Currently Amended) The system storage medium of claim 16, wherein the markup language formatted data specifies at least one actuator movement to be

implemented by the second model at the receiving system and an amount of force to be applied in the at least one actuator movement.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) The system storage medium of claim 13, said computer instructions means for simulating further comprising:

~~means~~ for translating the action into instructions for activating at least one actuator; and

~~means~~ for activating the at least one actuator in accordance with the instructions.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13, further comprising computer instructions for:

~~means~~ for detecting physical contact of the second model by movement of a second user in the receiving system, wherein said second model incorporates one or more sensors;

~~means~~ for generating data from said sensors specifying the physical contact of the second model movement in the receiving system;

~~means~~ for determining at least one action intended by the second user indicated by the generated data;

~~means~~ for transmitting the determined action over a communications network to [[a]] the sending system; and

~~means~~ for simulating the action by performing said action on the first user at [[in]] the sending system using the first model, wherein said first model incorporates one or more actuators.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said portion of said human body includes at least one among a human hand, a human head, a human face, and a human back.

23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said generated data specifies a time when a force was detected, the amount of said force, and a location on said human body to which said force was applied.

24. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said action intended by said first user includes at least one among a handshake, an embrace, and a pat on the back.

25. (New) The storage medium of claim 13, wherein said portion of said human body includes at least one among a human hand, a human head, a human face, and a human back.

26. (New) The storage medium of claim 13, wherein said generated data specifies a time when a force was detected, the amount of said force, and a location on said human body to which said force was applied.

27. (New) The storage medium of claim 13, wherein said action intended by said first user includes at least one among a handshake, an embrace, and a pat on the back.